Closure of units of NFL

615. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three plants of National Fertilizer Ltd. at Nangal, Panipat and Bhatinda are closed down due to financial crunch following freezing of the company's accounts by CBI and stopping of working capital support by nationalised banks; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) The Nangal, Panipat and Bhatinda plants of National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) are in production. The bank accounts of NFL have not been frozen and the company continues to avail itself of cash credit facilities from a consortium of banks for meeting its working capital requirements.

The production at the Panipat and Nangal units was temporarily suspended on 17.6.1996 due to non-availability of oil and coal on account of transport bottlenecks and difficulties at the despatching end, coupled with some liquidity problems. The remedial measures undertaken have enabled these plants to resume production.

Merging of Visakhapatnam division with South Central Railway Zone

616. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to merge Visakhapatnam Division with South Central Railway Zone to provide better services for North Coastal Andhra Region; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Railway Projects in M.P.

617. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing railway projects in Madhya Pradesh division-wise and the progress made for their completion by June 30, 1996;

(b) whether Government propose to take up any new railway project during the current Financial year and the Eighth Plan Period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) A statement is attached (*See* below)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The following new projects have been included in the Budget, 1996-97, which is the last year of the Eighth Five Year Plan:—

DOUBLINGS

i. Korba-Saragbundia Patch Doubling

ii. Katni A Cabin — New Katni Junction A Cabin

Statement

(a) The details are as under:—

Name of Projects	Progress upto 30.6.96
New Lines	
Bhopal Division	
1. Guna-Etawah	Guna-Shivpuri, Gwalior-Panihar, Shivpuri-Khajuri and Birlanagar-Nonera completed and opened to traffic.
Ratlam Division	
2. Godhra-Dahod-Indore and Dewas-Maksi	Work on Dewas-Maksi new line, which was earlier frozen, has recently been defrozen. Part work on earth work and minor bridges completed. Work currently in progress on Khajuri-Mohana-Panihar section.
GAUGE CONVERSION	
Ratlam Division	
1. Nimach-Ratlam	Work on bridges is in progress.
Nagpur Division	
2. Parasia-Chhindwara	Work completed. Section opened for goods traffic.